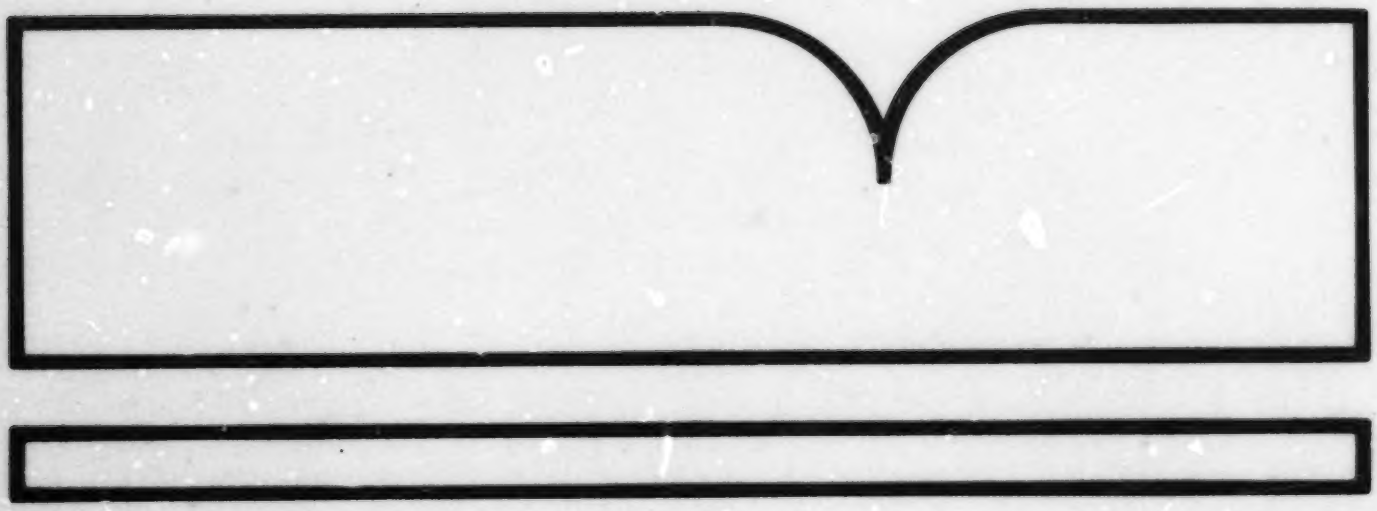
PB90-249798

Use of Office of Research and Development's Bioremediation Expertise in Superfund Removal Program

(U.S.) Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC

12 Mar 90



U.S. Department of Commerce
National Technical Information Service
NTIS

PB90-249798

United States Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Solid Waste And Emergency Response

EPA

DIRECTIVE NUMBER: 9380.4-01

TITLE: Use of Office of Research and Development's Bioremediation Expertise in Superfund Removal Program

APPROVAL DATE: 03/12/90

EFFECTIVE DATE: 03/12/90

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OSWER/OERR/HSCD

☒ **FINAL**

☐ **DRAFT**

STATUS:

REFERENCE (other documents):

OSWER OSWER OSWER
VE DIRECTIVE DIRECTIVE DI

REPRODUCED BY
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL TECHNICAL
INFORMATION SERVICE
SPRINGFIELD, VA 22161

REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188

1. Agency Use Only: PB90-249798	2. Report Date: 03/12/90	3. Report Type And Dates Covered: DIRECTIVE

4. Title And Subtitle: Use of Office of Research and Development's Bioremediation Expertise in Superfund Removal Program	5. Funding Numbers:
6. Author(s):	
7. Performing Organization Names And Addresses: Environmental Protection Agency Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response 401 M Street, SW Washington, DC 20460	8. Performing Organization Report Number: EPA/9380.4-01
9. Sponsoring/Monitoring Agency Name(s) And Address(es): Environmental Protection Agency Office of Emergency and Remedial Response 401 M Street, SW Washington, DC 20460	10. Sponsoring/Monitoring Agency Report Number:
11. Supplementary Notes:	
12a. Distribution/Availability Statement: The directive	12b. Distribution Code:

13. Abstract: Establishes a formal mechanism for accessing and using the Office of Research and Development's(ORD) capabilities in the area of biorem ediation of oil spills, hazardous substance spills, and Superfund removal actions.

14. Subject Terms: SUPERFUND DOCUMENT: Remedial	15. Number Of Pages: 5
	16. Price Code: A01

17. Report Security Classication:	18. Page Security Classication:	19. Abstract Security Classication:	20. Media:

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OSWER Directive 9380.4-01

MAR 1 2 1990

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Use of Office of Research and Development's Bioremediation Expertise in Superfund Removal Program

FROM: Henry L. Longest II, Director
Office of Emergency and Remedial Response

TO: Waste Management Division Directors, Regions I-X
Environmental Services Division Directors,
Regions I, VI, and VII
Superfund Branch Chiefs, Regions I-X
Oil and Hazardous Materials (OHM) Coordinators,
Regions I-X

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to establish a formal mechanism for accessing and using the Office of Research and Development's (ORD) capabilities in the area of bioremediation of oil spills, hazardous substances spills and Superfund removal actions.

BACKGROUND:

In the past several months ORD has shown an impressive capability in the area of bioremediation of spilled oil and hazardous waste. Especially noteworthy was its response to the EXXON Valdez oil spill, where it conducted on-site experiments that show that even in an arctic environment oil can be degraded by naturally occurring micro-organisms. The knowledge and expertise of the ORD Team that responded in Alaska will be of immense value to On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) throughout the nation in devising a cleanup methodology at other oil spills and Superfund removal sites. Since several ORD laboratories have specific bioremediation technology, accessing the needed capability has been difficult for OSCs who were not familiar with ORD's organizational structure.

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IMPLEMENTATION:

In order to facilitate access of the appropriate bioremediation expertise for OSCs, ORD's Risk Reduction Resources Laboratory (RRRL) in Cincinnati, Ohio, has agreed to serve as the activation mechanism for the ORD bioremediation capability. Upon receiving a request from an OSC, RRRL will assume the responsibility for identifying the location within ORD of the required experts and coordinate their use by the OSC.

The designated contact is John Glaser at the Risk Reduction Research Laboratory, Cincinnati, Ohio, who can be reached at 513-569-7568. His alternate is Charles Mitchell, Headquarters Program Liaison, Office of Environmental Engineering Technology, who can be reached at 202-382-5747. As always, the Environmental Response Team (ERT) in the Office of Emergency and Remedial Response is also available to advise the OSC on bioremediation and to assist him or her by coordinating ORD's on-site activities. The ERT can be activated by calling 201-321-6660 (24-hour number).

cc: Tim Fields, OERR
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Bruce Engelbert, ERD
Joe Lafornara, ERT
John Glaser, RRRL
Charles Mitchell, OEET